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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Annual Point in Time Count

Contact: Calhoun County – Lori Floyd, 256-238-6231, lori.floyd@the-right-place.org

Etowah County – Renee' Baker, 256-312-5589, rbaker@cityofgadsden.com

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The Homeless Coalition of Northeast Alabama (HCNEA) will conduct a survey on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 in and around Anniston and Thursday, January 26, 2017 in and around Gadsden. HCNEA members and trained volunteers will be interviewing homeless individuals, homeless families, those at-risk for homelessness, and agencies who provide services to homeless people in our area.

If you know of a homeless person or family, or if you are homeless, please contact Lori Floyd at 256-238-6231, lori.floyd@the-right-place.org or Renee' Baker, 256-312-5589, rbaker@cityofgadsden.com.

Additional Information:

HCNEA is an organization of service providers, organizations and individuals concerned about the plight of people who are currently homeless and at risk of homelessness in Calhoun, Etowah, Cherokee and DeKalb counties. Anniston and Gadsden are the only two cities in the service area with a population of 20,000 or higher. HCNEA is dedicated to the provision of services to homeless persons and to the prevention of homelessness in rural Alabama.

HCNEA and its member agencies gather data about the homeless persons in our area each January, over a 24 hour period. This 24 hour "point in time" shows the number of individuals and families who are homeless on any given night. The information obtained helps HCNEA and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to determine the needs of our homeless population. The homeless count report is a critical component in developing policies and obtaining federal funding to address issues related to homelessness in our area.